



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: Immediately
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Registration Open for 2023 Y.E.L.L. Female Summit **Y.E.L.L. Returns for Ninth Year**

DES MOINES, Wash. — Hundreds of young women of color are expected to attend the ninth annual Y.E.L.L. (Young Educated Ladies Leading) Female Summit at Highline College on Saturday, May 13, 2023. [Registration is open](#) and spaces will fill quickly for this annual event.

Under the theme “Crowning the Queen in You,” this year’s summit will focus on providing a space for high school and college-age women to:

- Critique life, education and careers social norms that inhibit young women of color from being recognized for their success.
- Highlight the achievements in spite of the obstacles/barriers that they face.
- Contextualize their self-identity socially, culturally, historically, and politically by giving the women of color a sense of self and value of self.

The ultimate goal of the summit is to empower and motivate young women of color to excel in academics and to accept nothing less than excellence from self.

“We are looking forward to the lively energy that the young ladies bring every year and seeing the students engage with each other,” said Tanisha Williams, co-chair of the Y.E.L.L. Female Summit steering committee.

Held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., the summit will feature a keynote presentation by Ruby Ibarra, a rapper/spoken word artist and scientist from the Bay Area, California.

“The committee chose Ruby Ibarra as our Keynote speaker because she came highly recommended and has a very unique story as a woman of color in the stem field,” Williams said. “She also has a strong message that speaks to this generation of students.”

Workshop presenters will include Bessie Gordon-Verrett, Dar’Nesha Weary, Haben Hailesslassie, Ashley Kay Smith, Nitasha Lewis, Samantha Moreno, and others.

In addition to speaker presentations and workshops, the summit will offer a resource fair.

“Attendees can expect to see a variety of programs and resources offered at Highline, as well as some community resources available for young women of color,” Williams noted.

The summit is free but registration is required. Registration will close May 5, 2023 or when spaces are filled. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for those who have registered.

Event Details:

Saturday, May 13, 2023

8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Building 8 (Highline Student Union)

[Highline's main campus](#)

[Register](#) and find more information for the Y.E.L.L. Female Summit at yell.highline.edu.

Questions?

Email yell@highline.edu

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Links within this release:

- <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdDEo2UXwqEfg691zxDwsrz0kFpVmGnbRRVgNzmES28mgKGdg/viewform>
- <https://www.highline.edu/campus-guide/locations-and-directions/>
- <https://yell.highline.edu/>

Founded in 1961 as the first community college in King County, Highline College annually serves 13,000 students. With over 75 percent students of color, Highline is the most diverse higher education institution in the state. The college offers a wide range of academic transfer, professional-technical education, basic skills and applied bachelor's degree programs. Alumni include former Seattle Mayor Norm Rice, entrepreneur Junki Yoshida, Dr. Tom Jackson, president of Cal-Poly Humboldt and former Washington state poet laureate Sam Green.